LAW OFFICES

February 13, 2012

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Federal Communications Commission

Mr. Michael J. Wagner 14 P 2: 45

Washington, D. C. 20554

By Hand

Audio Division

Media Bureau

Federal Communications Commission Bureau / Office

Re: FCC Form 316, filed December 9, 2011, File No. BTC - 20111209AUZ FCC Form 314, filed December 15, 2011, File No. BAL - 20111215ABH FCC Form 323, filed November 10, 2011, File No. BOA - 20111110AAU FCC Form 323, filed November 30, 2011, File No. BOS - 20111130HWC FCC Form 323, filed January 9, 2012, File No. BOZ - 20120109ABN

Dear Mr. Wagner:

For the reasons set forth below, M. J. Phillips Communications, Inc., Debtor-in-Possession ("Licensee"), licensee of Station WJJL, Niagara Falls, New York ("Station"), by its attorney and pursuant to Commission Rules 1.41, 1.1104, 1.1109(c), 73.3518, 73.3564(a)(1) and (3) and (b), and 73.3566(a), requests that the Bureau:

- i) find the captioned applications and Ownership Reports "patently not in accordance with the FCC's rules" and thus unacceptable for filing;
- find the filings "unprocessable" and "inconsistent"; ii)
- iii) find the filings to have been "inadvertently accepted" for filing; and
- iv) return or dismiss all five filings.

I. The Licensee Has Not Authorized the Filings.

The two applications identify the *licensee* as "Joann Nicola Lutz DeDistefano" Phillips" ("DeDistefano"). The three Ownership Reports identify DeDistefano as the respondent. In all five filings, DeDistefano is also listed as the contact person for the licensee or respondent.

In executing the five documents, DeDistefano represented herself to be:

[&]quot;The Original Owner of WJJL Radio Niagara Falls, NY"

[&]quot;Original Owner WJJL AM Radio"

[&]quot;Original Owner of WJJL AM"

[&]quot;Original Owner of WJJL Radio"

[&]quot;Owner of WJJL AM Radio".

As detailed below, Licensee has previously established that those representations are unquestionably false.

- 2. Licensee did not authorize any of the filings. Likewise, Licensee did not obtain, or authorize anyone else to obtain, the FCC Registration Number pursuant to which the filings were tendered.¹
- 3. The licensee first learned of the earliest of the captioned filings when counsel attempted, unsuccessfully, to file the licensee's biennial Ownership Report in late November, 2011. The Commission's CDBS apparently blocked that filing because of the earlier filing of the first Ownership Report listed above. ²
- 4. From approximately October through December of 1997, Licensee employed a person then known to it as Joann Nicola Lutz <u>DiStefano</u> ("DiStefano") approximately eight hours per week to prepare and host a six hour program one evening per week. Her employment was terminated by Licensee either very late in 1997 or very early in 1998. ³
- 5. As Mr. M. John Phillips ("Phillips"), president of Licensee, represented to the Commission in a statement under penalty of perjury dated October 28, 2004 ("Statement"), approximately two years after her termination, DiStefano began to claim, first in conversations with Phillips and Dennis Westberg, the other principal of Licensee, and subsequently in Commission and court filings and on radio industry "buzz boards", that she was the owner of Station and two other stations. The Statement established that DiStefano had never been an officer, director, shareholder or manager of either Station or Licensee.

It has come to the attention of counsel that the licensee inadvertently failed to file FCC Form 316 when its bankruptcy proceeding was terminated some time ago. An application will be filed shortly to regularize that situation.

The publicly accessible portion of the Commission's FRN data base currently indicates that FRN 0007 - 2930 - 87 is held by "Mrs. Joann N Lutz De Distefano Phillips" and that it was originally issued June 22, 2002. It appears that she has updated her contact information to reflect her current address. It is impossible to determine from the publicly accessible portion of the data base what other changes may have been made to the registration over the years.

The licensee will file that Ownership Report promptly upon dismissal of the captioned filings.

The exact dates of her employment are no longer known by Licensee because all of Station's studio and office equipment and business records were destroyed in a fire that completely consumed its studios and offices on December 17, 1999.

- 6. Licensee is quite confident that DiStefano and DeDiStefano are the same person. This person has also used other variants of these names (see, e.g., the 2005 Ownership Report listed in Footnote 4).
- 7. Simply put, the five captioned filings were executed and filed by a person who does not have, and never has had, an ownership interest in Licensee or any role in its management. She lacks any authority to act on behalf of Licensee. Apart from her malicious filings and communications with the Commission, courts, Station's advertisers and others with whom Licensee has dealings (see, e.g., Statement and Paragraphs 33- 39 below), DiStefano has been a stranger to Licensee since her employment was terminated.
- 8. As the Commission's records reflect, this is not DiStefano's first submission of unauthorized and fraudulent applications to the Commission. In 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006, DiStefano filed multiple Ownership Reports as well as broadcast and other applications relating to Station. ⁴ Those applications were dismissed in 2004 and 2007 at the request of Licensee. During this period, DiStefano also filed a number of claims against Licensee in New York courts which were rejected out of hand.
- 9. She presents herself to the Commission, courts and others as "Mrs. ... Phillips," apparently on the basis of her entirely unsupported prior claim to have married Phillips on September 27, 1952 (see, e.g., Exhibit 4 to one of the 2003 Ownership Reports mentioned in Footnote 4, File No. BOA 20030203AMR). In the Statement, Phillips denied having ever been married to DiStefano and noted that he was only nine years old at the time she then claimed to have married him. She now claims the marriage occurred October 6, 1955 (second captioned Ownership Report, Exhibit 2) when he would have been 12.
- 10. The current licensee has owned Station since 1992. Station went on the air in December 1947. In the captioned filings, DiStefano repeats her earlier claims to be the "original owner" of Station. In preparing Licensee's October 28, 2004, Motion to Dismiss and Request for Sanctions ("Motion") directed against DiStefano and her previous filings, Licensee and its counsel researched many details of her claim through the Commission's ownership and other records for Station and extended discussions with Niagara Falls officials and at least one prior owner of Station. That research is detailed in the Motion and Statement. The research found absolutely no evidence that DiStefano was ever an officer, director or shareholder or other owner of <u>any</u> licensee of Station from 1947 through 1992. To the contrary, it found much evidence discrediting virtually every detail of her claims.

⁴ See, for example:

File No. BR - 20060405ACO

File No. BOS - 20060405ACN

File No. BOA - 20050107AAB

File No. BOS - 20041213AAA

File No. BAL - 20040908AAA

File No. BOS - 20030415ABG

File No. BOA - 20030203AMR

II. The Documents Have Been Tendered Without Filing Fees.

- 11. Commission Rule 1.1104 requires that fees accompany each of the captioned filings. None of the filings were submitted with filing fees. In response to the questions on the forms concerning applications submitted without fees, the following unresponsive and unexplained assertions are offered as the "reason for fee exemption":
 - i) "President John Phillips has been my sponsor since 1960 and is responsible for all of my money as well as that of Station WJJL." ⁵ (Form 323; filed 11/10/11)
 - ii) "John Phillips is responsible for my money." (Form 323; filed 11/30/11)
 - iii) "M. John Phillips is responsible for all of my bill payments." (Form 316; filed 12/9/11)
 - iv) "M. John Phillips is responsible for my money." (Form 314; filed 12/15/11)
 - v) "M. John Phillips/AKA?John Phillips is responsible for all of my money and that of the Station." (Form 323 filed 1/9/12)
- 12. Because the applications and Ownership Reports were submitted without fees <u>and</u> without even a colorable claim to be exempt from the fees, they must be returned as "unprocessable" under Rule 1.1109(c). This is particularly true since even the most recent filing was tendered more than thirty days ago.
- 13. DiStefano's 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 applications and Ownership Reports were also submitted without fees. The question concerning submisions without fees was left blank on the 2004 application and the 2004 and 2005 Ownership Reports. The 2003 Ownership Report disingenuously claims the fee was paid a month before the report was filed.
- 14. On the 2006 application, the following "explanation" was offered: "Fee was inadvertently paid on 09/08/2004 and erroneously by Mr. James Cooke who has nothing to

This "explanation" apparently renews, and changes, DiStefano's previous claim that Phillips was her "sponsor" when she immigrated to the U.S. in October of 1955. The Statement and Motion made clear that Phillips: i) had no direct knowledge as to whether DiStefano immigrated to this country; ii) if she did, he did not "sponsor" DiStefano; and iii) he was twelve years old in October 1955. He likewise did not "sponsor" her immigration in 1960.

In this regard, see also, item "Second" on Page 5: DiStefano claims in the captioned Form 314 filed five weeks later to have now "discovered" that she was born in the U.S.

do with the station and is soon to be federally indicted." I hereby represent that there was no basis in fact for any of the several elements of the "explanation" relating to the 2006 application.

III. The Documents Are Internally Inconsistent and Inconsistent With Each Other.

- 15. There are a multitude of immediately obvious inconsistencies within and between the captioned filings. As described below, the two applications and three Ownership Reports are so fundamentally inconsistent that the later-filed application and the two most recent Ownership Reports violate the ban of Rule 73.3518 on inconsistent or conflicting applications. Those three documents <u>must</u> be returned or dismissed.
- 16. Moreover, the first-filed application and Ownership Report are so internally inconsistent that they cannot reasonably be deemed "substantially complete" or "... in accordance with the Commission's core legal ... requirements ... " under Rule 73.3564. Those two documents thus are: unacceptable for filing; <u>must</u> be deemed "inadvertently accepted"; and <u>must</u> be returned or dismissed.
- 17. First, there is no explanation of how the captioned FCC Forms 316 and 314 relate to each other. The applications are not only inconsistent with each other but also internally inconsistent in several fundamental respects.
- 18. Inexplicably, the Form 316 seeks approval of an <u>involuntary</u> transfer of control of the purported existing licensee, DiStefano individually, from the actual licensee to DiStefano individually. In response to Question 5 of Section III, DiStefano indicates that:
 - the ownership <u>and</u> voting interests before the transfer are: DiStefano, 100%;
 John Phillips, 51%; Westberg, 49%; and
 - the ownership <u>and</u> voting interests after the transfer of control will be; DiStefano, 100%; John Phillips, 100%; Westberg, 0%.
- 19. The Form 314 is an equal enigma: i) it seeks approval of an <u>involuntary</u> assignment of the license from the purported current licensee, DiStefano individually, to DiStefano individually, the purported assignee; and ii) it states that after the assignment, she and Phillips will each own 100% of the total assets and that she will have 100% of the votes. DiStefano executed the application as both the licensee/assignor and the assignee.
- 20. Second, Exhibit 12 to the Form 314 (filed December 15, 2011) indicates that DiStefano has "discovered" through an unspecified FOIA request that she was born in the U.S. rather than abroad as she had claimed in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and as recently as November 9, 2011.

- 21. Third, in Exhibit 12 DiStefano also embelishes her claim to be the "original owner" of Station: she states, without any explanation, that she is "... very uncomfortable with such high power for the transmitter I had built in 1946...". Predictably, at no time since the Licensee purchased Station in 1992 has it operated it with a 1946 vintage transmitter. Station is operating at its authorized power using a Broadcast Electronics transmitter purchased new in the late 1990s.
- 22. Although possible, it seems highly unlikely that DiStefano had any role in the design of any radio station in 1946 when she would have been 14 years old. More importantly, as set forth above (Section I, see, especially, Paragraphs 5 and 10), Licensee's previous research has completely discredited the claim that either she or anyone in her family was the "original owner" of Station or ever held an ownership interest in it. ⁶
- 23. Fourth, the captioned Ownership Reports are equally inconsistent, both internally and with each other.
- 24. The Ownership Report executed November 9, 2011, indicates the licensee to be DiStefano individually and that she holds 0.0% of the voting rights, 100% of the equity and 0.0% of the total assets. It is described as a biennial Ownership Report.
- 25. The Ownership Report filed November 30, 2011, indicates that the license is held by the actual Licensee and that the purpose of the document is to report a transfer of control or assignment of license.
- 26. The Ownership Report filed January 9, 2012, indicates that its purpose is to update an initial Ownership Report filed in conjunction with a permittee's application for a station's first license! It identifies the licensee as DiStefano individually/MJ Phillips Communications. It reports that: i) DiStefano has 100% of the total assets and 100% of the votes; and ii) M John Phillips/aka/John Phillips also holds 100% of the total assets but 0.0% of the votes.
- 27. Clearly, these filings are so internally inconsistent, and so inconsistent with each other, that they should not have been accepted for filing (Rules 73.3518 and 73.3564).

In other filings and forums, DiStefano has claimed that various other family members have also been owners of Station at different times since 1946. In Exhibit 12, she mentions her father and uncle. The 2005 Ownership Report identified in Footnote 4 has a quite extensive list of such other owners. The exhibits to that filing, especially Exhibit 5, also include extended recitations of DiStefano's claimed marriage to Phillips, her immigration status and family relationships.

IV. Additional Information.

- 28. The following additional information will provide some context to this request by Licensee.
- 29. First, in view of the fraudulent Commission filings identified above and the harassing emails and calls described below, the licensee has filed a criminal complaint with the West Seneca, New York Police Department, Complaint No. 11-122229, which is being investigated by Detective Ken Morano.
- 30. Second, in each of the captioned applications, DiStefano provides "200 Tillary Street, Brooklyn, New York" as the contact address. The sole occupant of the building at that address is the Tillary Street Women's Shelter ("Shelter") which is operated by the Institute for Community Living under a contract with the New York City Department of Homeless Services. Attachment 1 is a copy of a page from its web site describing the Shelter and the criteria for admission. It notes in part:
 - The Shelter "... provides transitional shelter and services to 200 women with serious mental illness, some of whom also have addiction disorders."
 - "Admission . . . is through the DHS [NYC Department of Homeless Services] Women's Assessment Shelters".
- 31. Third, Attachment 2 is the Wikipedia entry for Station. The final paragraph of the entry makes specific mention of DiStefano. The "sources" credited for the Station WJJL entry include DiStefano. The licensee has made no current attempt independently to verify any portion of Station's Wikipedia entry.
- 32. After inquiry, Messrs. Phillips and Westberg have reported to me that no officer, director, shareholder, or employee of the licensee, or any other person acting with the knowledge of the licensee, contributed the DiStefano reference or any other portion of the Wikipedia entry for Station.
- 33. Fourth, Licensee and a number of firms with which it does business and government agencies have received emails or phone calls from DiStefano containing disparaging, untrue claims about Licensee. The recipients range from me to the management agent for the shopping center where Station's studios are located to various local government agencies to the Commission. The principal purpose of these contacts seems to be disrupt Licensee's business and other relationships and otherwise divert its attention from the operation of Station.
- 34. An example based on my experience will illustrate the continuing problems for Licensee. In emails and exhibits to several of the captioned filings (and in several of the filings listed in Footnote 4), DiStefano has alleged a variety of professional misconduct and criminal activity by me and she has claimed to have filed, or threatened to file, complaints

with various state and federal authorities. Most of her complaints range from ambiguous to incomprehensible. Should I ever be called upon formally to respond to such a complaint, the process would be both tremendously frustrating and very time consuming.

- 35. One of her clear, oft-repeated (and correct) complaints is that I have failed to respond to communications from her and otherwise keep her informed. For the reasons described above and in the Motion, I am extraordinarily confident that DiStefano is not now, and never has been, a principal or manager of Licensee and I know that I have never otherwise represented her. I thus have no professional obligation to respond to her or keep her informed. On the other hand, it is my impression that the Virginia State Bar treats very seriously complaints that a lawyer has failed to respond to a client or otherwise failed to keep a client informed.
- 36. Were a complaint to be filed with the Bar, I am extremely confident that I could ultimately satisfy it that DiStefano is not now, and never has been my client, either directly or through Licensee. However, as I finalize this letter, I am very mindful of the burden and aggravation that would be involved. As a result, I occasionally wonder whether it is in my best interest to continue to represent Licensee.
- 37. My decade-long representation of Licensee has been limited in scope but it has given me: i) great confidence in the integrity and reliability of Messrs. Phillips and Westberg; and ii) extremely little, if any, confidence in the integrity and reliability of DiStefano. Imagine the position of a party considering doing business with Licensee for the first time if it is confronted by DiStefano, or through a "due diligence" investigation becomes aware of her long-running allegations to the Commission about Licensee. Importantly, she has in the past repeatedly pointed out to third-parties that her filings have been "accepted" by the Commission.
- 38. The plain fact is that any party considering doing business with Licensee for the first time who becomes aware of these allegations will need a very strong constitution to actually do business with Licensee and risk becoming embroiled in DiStefano claims against Licensee. By far the easiest course is to "move on down the road."
- 39. Importantly, this risk is <u>not</u> simply theoretical. Licensee was advised last month by a firm that it would not further consider doing business with Licensee at least until DiStefano's claims are resolved. This firm did a simple Internet check of Licensee and found DiStefano's allegations. Immediately accessible examples of the information are the final paragraph of the Wikipedia excerpt in Attachment 2 and links to radio industry "buzz board" sites such as the one referred to in Wikipedia Reference Note 5.

V. Conclusion.

40. Absent waivers of each of the substantive Commission Rules cited above, which have <u>not</u> been requested, each of the captioned filings violates at least three

centrally important Commission standards for acceptance of applications and Ownership Reports. Plainly, none of the captioned filings is acceptable for filing. The only proper course is for the Bureau to now find that they were "inadvertently accepted" for filing and return or dismiss each filing.

- 41. Each of the five filings is replete with multiple, wilful false statements of material facts. This provides yet another basis for dismissal of each filing. As is noted on every Commission form, such wilful false statements are also a crime punishable by fine or imprisonment.
- 42. Since the CDBS Ownership Report information feature has no means of indicating that a report has been dismissed, <u>Licensee also requests that the three captioned Ownership Reports and the additional Ownership Reports identified in Footnote 4 hereof be removed from the CDBS listing</u>. The ready accessability of these fraudulent reports continues to create uncertainty in the minds of those with whom Licensee does business, or wishes to do business. As explained above, those entries are a particular obstacle to Licensee's efforts to develop new business relationships.
- 43. For the reasons set forth above and in the following paragraphs, prompt action, to the extent permitted under the Commission's procedural rules, would best serve the public interest. Licensee also requests that any document dismissing these filings: i) make clear that, as with the filings described in Footnote 4, DiStefano has offered no genuine facts to support any of her claims; and ii) the unsupported claims in the filings raise serious questions as to whether sanctions could be imposed under U. S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001 and/or U.S. Code, Title 17, Section 503.
- 44. DiStefano's unfounded claims and disruptive conduct over a number of years have caused massive inconvenience and expense to the Licensee's stand-alone AM station and <u>pointlessly</u> burdened the Commission and the courts. Most if not all of her actions are unquestionably malicious, e.g., i) her previous contacts with Station advertisers telling them that Station was terminating their advertising contracts; ⁷ and ii) her harassing contacts with Licensee, its landlord and others with which it has dealings. ⁸
- 45. DiStefano's current admission to the Tillary Street Women's Shelter suggests she may be mentally ill. Nonetheless, it is entirely clear that she is an intelligent woman with significant computer skills. For nearly a decade, she has used those capabilities to submit multiple fraudulent filings to the Commission and the courts and otherwise willfully and maliciously to interfere with Licensee's business. It is time for this vindictive conduct to end.

Motion at pages 11 - 12 and Attachment F to Motion.

⁸ Motion at pages 10- 12 and Paragraphs 33 - 39 above.

Should the Bureau need additional information to complete its consideration of this request, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

James R. Cooke Counsel for M. J. Phillips Communications, Inc., Debtor in Possession

Attachments

cc via certified mail: Ms. Joann Nicola Lutz DeDiStefano Phillips Tillary Street Women's Shelter 200 Tillary Street Brooklyn, New York 11201

Ms. Denise Williams, Media Bureau CC:

Station WJJL Request for Return Attachment 1

Attached is an excerpt from the web site of the Institute for Community Living which operates the Tillary Street Women's Shelter where DiStefano is apparently currently admitted.

The licensee has no independent knowledge as to the accuracy of any of the information in this excerpt. Based upon its counsel's telephone inquiries to both the Institute for Community Living and the New York City Department of Homeless Services, licensee likewise has no reason to question any of the information.



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ICL Services for Homeless Adults

ICL operates two homeless shelters that house over 400 men and women at any one time through contracts with the NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS).

Borden Avenue Veterans Shelter can accommodate over 240 men and women who have served in our country's military and are now homeless. Located in Long Island City in Queens, Borden houses veterans that span service from World War II to the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Many residents suffer from multiple health and mental health disorders resulting directly or indirectly from their military service. ICL and its subsidiary ICL HealthCare Choices work collaboratively with DHS and the U.S. Veterans Administration to help veterans stabilize their health and mental health and transition to community housing and services.

Tillary Street Shelter provides transitional shelter and services to 200 women with serious mental illness, some of whom also have addiction disorders. Located in downtown Brooklyn, Tillary provides a safe environment with an intensive array of clinical and supportive services. ICL subsidiaries, ICL HealthCare Choices and ICL Guidance Center of Brooklyn, provide quality medical and mental health services to shelter residents. ICL works collaboratively with DHS to facilitate the successful transition of shelter residents into community housing.

Admission to the Borden Avenue Veterans Shelter is through the DHS Multi-Service Center at 25 Chapel Street in Downtown Brooklyn.

Admission to the Tillary Street Shelter is through the DHS Women's Assessment Shelters. Call 311 for the locations and telephone numbers of the DHS Multi Service Center and the NYC assessment shelters.

Request Services



FACT: Last year, ICL executives, program directors and clinicians made over a dozen presentations at national and state conferences on innovative programming they are developing or implementing in health and behavioral healthcare.



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Station WJJL Request for Dismissal Attachment 2

Attached is a print out of the Wikipedia listing for Station. The Bureau's attention is particularly invited to:

- i) the listed sources for this entry;
- ii) the reference to DiStefano in the final paragraph; and
- the sidebar explanation of the significance of the call letters of Station which further illustrates just how ludicrous it is for DiStefano to claim to be the "original owner" of Station.

The licensee has no independent knowledge as to the accuracy of any of the three referenced items.

\mathbf{WJJL}

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

WJJL (1440 AM) is a radio station broadcasting a 1950s music (oldies) format. Licensed to Niagara Falls, New York, USA, the station serves the Buffalo area. The station is currently owned by M. J. Phillips Communications, Inc., Debtor in Possession.^[1] WJJL went on the air in December 1947, and it serves Western New York and Southern Ontario, Canada. WJJL was the first radio station to feature a two-way telephone talk show, Party Line. The show was renamed to Viewpoint in the 1960s [2]

Until its move to West Seneca, WJJL primarily served the Greater Niagara Falls area. In the station's heyday, it was never a top-notch station (when compared to the big legendary AMs in nearby Buffalo, such as WKBW, WBEN, WEBR, and WGR). However, it was a launching pad for many future top talents. These include former News Director and *Viewpoint* host Dave McKinley, now an Emmy Award-winning reporter for WGRZ-TV in Buffalo. John Murphy, the current radio voice of the Buffalo Bills, worked there early in his career, as did longtime WJYE/Buffalo Program Director/Morning Host Joe Chile, and national voice-over artist Jeff Lawrence. Current WGN Radio-Chicago VP/General Manager Tom Langmyer worked there as a summer fill-in personality, news reporter and anchor while in college. Other noted WJJL alumni include WBEN talk show host Tom Bauerle. longtime Niagara Falls fixture and news director Tom Darro, Tony Magoo, John Jarrett, Jon Park, David J. Miller, Bob O'Neil, WKBW-TV Anchor Melanie Pritchard, WGR's Howard Simon, former WIVB-TV personality Craig Nigrelli (now in Omaha), and Citadel Syndicated Midnight Radio Network Talk Host and former WBEN Talk Host Gary McNamara. A studio fire at the station's Niagara Falls headquarters in 1999 necessitated a move out of Niagara Falls to West Seneca. Until its closure, the station maintained a satellite studio in The Summit Park Mall in Wheatfield. In June 2009, WJJL's morning show started broadcasting from The

WJJL



City of

Niagara Falls, New York

license

Broadcast

Buffalo, New York

area

Branding

Old Time Rock & Roll

Frequency

1440 kHz

Format

1950s music

Power

1,000 watts day

55 watts night

Class

D

Facility ID

39517

Transmitter 43°4'43.00"N 79°0'40.00"W

coordinates

Callsign

W John J. Laux

meaning

The station's founder

Owner

M. J. Phillips Communications, Inc.,

Debtor in Possession

Webcast

High school games

(http://www.nhsbn.com/play/index.cfm?

fuseaction=embstay&id=242276B657)

Website

wjil.com (http://www.wjjl.com)

Niagara Arts and Cultural Center. [3] In late 2010, the station moved into a new Southgate Plaza Location.

From 2000 to 2009, WJJL began broadcasting weekly games of the City of Buffalo Public School's Harvard Cup football league. These broadcasts featured Rich Kozak on play-by-play, Hall of Fame Coach Art Serotte, and sideline reporter Dr. John Pluta. The Harvard Cup championship was traditionally played on Thanksgiving. WJJL continues its weekly coverage of Western New York High School Football with the "Intense Milks" Game of the Week still focusing on the teams of the former Harvard Cup League. Kozak, Serotte, Pluta, and analyst Roger Weiss continue as part of the broadcast crew. Kozak will discontinue the project after the 2011 season, due to the discontinuation of the Buffalo Bills' sponsorship of the event.^[4]

The station's owner is M.J. Phillips. A considerable amount of controversy arose in 2007, when a woman who identified herself as "Joann Nicola Lutz Distefano Phillips", an Internet troll who was known for her bizarre screeds on radio message boards, [5] claimed to be the owner of the station, as well as M.J.'s ex-wife, and tried to take over the station's license by filing a parallel license renewal listing herself as the station owner. The FCC rejected her claim to the station, just as they did in 2004 when she previously tried to file a license renewal. [6][7][8] She filed yet another attempt to take the station in 2011.

References

- 1. ^ "WJJL Facility Record" (http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=WJJL) . *United States Federal Communications Commission, audio division*. http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=WJJL.
- 2. ^ Continelli, Louise (2009-05-24). "Talk show host likes to listen to callers" (http://findarticles.com/p/news-articles/buffalo-news/mi_8030/is_20090524/host-likes-listen-callers/ai_n43029216/). *Buffalo News*. http://findarticles.com/p/news-articles/buffalo-news/mi_8030/is_20090524/host-likes-listen-callers/ai_n43029216/.
- 3. ^ "Summit Mall Merchants Find New Homes" (http://blogs.buffalonews.com/moneysmart/2009/06/summit-mall-merchants-find-new-homes.html) . http://blogs.buffalonews.com/moneysmart/2009/06/summit-mall-merchants-find-new-homes.html.
- 4. ^ McShea, Keith (October 12, 2011). City broadcasts, sadly, will be silenced (http://www.buffalonews.com/sports/high-schools/article590464.ece). *The Buffalo News*. Retrieved October 12, 2011.
- 5. ^ Message board post by "Joann" (http://www.activeboard.com/forum.spark?aBID=52348&p=3&topicID=4112704)
- 6. ^ Fybush, Scott (2007-07-02). Emotional signoff for WBZ's Sullivan (http://www.fybush.com/NERW/2007/070702/nerw.html) . *NorthEast Radio Watch*. Retrieved 2010-04-10.
- 7. ^ FCC ruling on WJJL license renewal attempt by "Joann" (http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-07-2835A1.pdf)
- 8. ^ 2004 Dismissed license renewal application by "Joann" (http://licensing.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/ws.exe/prod/cdbs/pubacc/prod/app_det.pl?Application_id=1010437)

External links

- Query the FCC's AM station database for WJJL (http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/amq?call=WJJL)
- Radio-Locator Information on WJJL (http://www.radio-locator.com/info/WJJL-AM)
- Query Arbitron's AM station database for WJJL (http://www1.arbitron.com/sip/displaySip.do? surveyID=WI12&band=am&callLetter=WJJL)

Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=WJJL&oldid=466614892" Categories: Radio stations in Buffalo, New York

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